



2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 62

January 15, 2014 – Introduced by Senators L. TAYLOR, HARRIS, C. LARSON, HANSEN, CARPENTER, WIRCH, MILLER, HARSDORF, JAUCH, VINEHOUT, T. CULLEN, RISSER, LASSA and LEHMAN, cosponsored by Representatives BARNES, JOHNSON, YOUNG, KESSLER, PASCH, ZEPNICK, RIEMER, RICHARDS, SINICKI, BERCEAU, THIESFELDT, STRACHOTA, MASON, C. TAYLOR, KAHL, ZAMARRIPA, HULSEY, WRIGHT, KOLSTE, MILROY, JORGENSEN, DANOU, GENRICH, HEBL, SARGENT, GOYKE, SPIROS, PETRYK, BILLINGS, RINGHAND, MURTHA, SHANKLAND, HINTZ and OHNSTAD. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Nelson R. Mandela.

2 Whereas, Nelson R. Mandela, South Africa’s anti-apartheid leader, Nobel
3 laureate, and beloved world figure, passed away on December 5, 2013, at the age of
4 95; and

5 Whereas, Nelson Mandela, who was one of the most brilliant, courageous, and
6 charismatic political figures of our time, united South Africa under the most
7 improbable circumstances of rampant racism, inseparable minority rule, and
8 widespread oppression; and

9 Whereas, Nelson Mandela, who was born in 1918 and schooled as a lawyer, was
10 dedicated to breaking the shackles of segregation in South Africa and spoke proudly
11 against the minority rule of the South African government and sweeping injustice
12 across the nation; and

13 Whereas, Nelson Mandela was charged with treason for protesting the
14 apartheid government and spent twenty–seven years as a political prisoner, and was

1 released in 1990 free of any resentment or hatred, determined to serve both the
2 people who once oppressed him and the people who remained oppressed; and

3 Whereas, Nelson Mandela fought against “white domination and black
4 domination,” avoided civil war, and bridged the “chasms” that divided South Africa
5 for countless years, becoming the first black president of South Africa, from 1994 to
6 1999; and

7 Whereas, Nelson Mandela was a man of many handshakes who peacefully
8 transformed South Africa’s tradition of minority rule and presided over South
9 Africa’s transition from apartheid, all proving that there is “freedom in forgiving”;
10 and

11 Whereas, Nelson Mandela is recognized as a resounding voice for developing
12 nations across the globe, remembered as the winner of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize,
13 and celebrated as the author of “Long Walk to Freedom” and “Conversations with
14 Myself”; and

15 Whereas, Nelson Mandela’s unrelenting dedication, tremendous concern for
16 truth, and moral compass comparable to few have left the world with a legacy of
17 forgiveness that will influence the perspectives of many to come; now, therefore, be
18 it

19 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the
20 Wisconsin legislature commend the life and public service of Nelson R. Mandela,
21 extend their condolences to the people of South Africa and his friends and family,
22 mourn his passing, and finally, thank him for his endless perseverance: “The greatest
23 glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”

24

(END)